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mass of fog, which we again passed out of before reaching Westland-row Terminus. I know not how far, if at all, such fogs may be found connected with luminous meteors.

“On the 30th of October last, at about 5 o'clock in the evening, being on the strand of Killiney Bay, my son and I also saw a meteor, very much like that I have just described, flying horizontally, and disappearing in the opening between the obelisk and Rochestown hills. It was too distant and little seen to enable any accurate observation to be made; but it was, like the present, at the first glance taken for a rocket.”

The Rev. Dr. Todd read the following extract from a letter from John T. Rowland, Esq., giving an account of the discovery of a rudely cut stone found near Ardee :

“I send you herewith, for presentation to the Royal Irish Academy, an ancient basin or urn, which I found in January, 1848, on the lands of Paughenstown, about two and a half miles east of Ardee, where caves had been discovered by workmen employed in deep-draining a large field which had been laid down for many years, and which in appearance was almost level, presenting no indication whatever of tumuli or mounds.

“When I arrived at the place, there were, in the middle of the field, two great heaps of stones, the scattered remains of the caves or chambers. It appeared that the workmen (in making a drain from north to south) came upon a wall of dry stones, at a depth of about five feet from the surface; in following which they found it to be one of two walls running parallel, about two and a half feet asunder, forming a passage covered with large flags, running on to a distance of about ten feet, when it turned to the west, and opened into a circular chamber about twelve feet in diameter and ten feet in height, having a conical roof, capped on top by a large flag about six feet in diameter, which still lay on the field unbroken. In this

chamber the floor was flat, and strewed with pebbles, but contained nothing possessing interest, except a huge clay ornamented pipe, the shank of which was as thick as a man's forefinger. The passage then proceeded in a southern direction, keeping in a line with the place at the north where the passage was first discovered.

“ At a distance of about twenty feet south of the first chamber was found another circular chamber about six feet in diameter and eight feet in height, having a very singular floor. As I was not present when these chambers were opened and broken up, I cannot vouch for what I am now going to describe, but the workmen all agreed in a description to the following effect :

“ This chamber was surrounded by seats or stone benches placed against the walls, from which the floor descended in a concave manner to a point in the middle (thus making the bottom of a like shape to the roof of the chamber), and these benches formed steps down to the point in the centre.

“ The passage then proceeded still southward for four or six feet, at which place further progress seemed denied by a huge flag placed on its edge across the passage, and firmly set in on either side. This, however, seems to have aroused the inquisitiveness of the workmen, and was soon broken through; but all beyond was mystery; for the passage, though still continued southward, was not covered with flags, and was completely choked with clay and small stones. I presume that this was in reality the proper entrance to the chambers, and that it had centuries ago been opened by destructive hands, and carelessly filled up when their object was accomplished.

“ All the large flags and other stones which had formed the passage and chambers were thrown up, and broken by the iron hammers of the workmen to make draining stones; and when I arrived on the spot nothing was visible but about 100 tons of stones, the trench and holes marking where the passages and chambers had once been. However, I got some

men, and set them to work at the south end of the trench, in order, if the passage still continued (as the workmen informed me) that I might see if it led to other chambers. To work they went; but having gone about eight feet in continuation, and a depth of six, and in some places seven feet, I gave up hopes of any further discovery. The walls of the passage still continued running now south-eastward, the tops of the walls being five feet beneath the surface of the field; but this passage was filled up with clay, and no flags covered it across.

“ In this cutting, however, I found an ancient Irish quern, and beside it (both at a depth of four feet) a bit of charcoal.

“ Looking carefully among the heaps of stones which had composed the chambers, I found the basin or flat urn I now send you. This the men thought had been thrown out of the smaller of the two chambers.

“ The flags of which these chambers had been made were of two kinds, clay-slate and red sand-stone, there being much of the latter. On one flag of the former, and half imbedded in the substance of the stone, were sea-shells of the ammonite.

“ I brought away the quern, the basin, and a piece of the flag covered with shells.

“ I hope the basin, though rude in form, may prove interesting.
